

House File 89 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 89
BY ABDUL-SAMAD

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to a foreign language requirement at the
2 elementary school level and including effective date
3 provisions.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 256.11, subsection 3, Code 2013, is
2 amended to read as follows:

3 3. The following areas shall be taught in grades one through
4 six: English-language arts, social studies, mathematics,
5 science, health, age-appropriate and research-based human
6 growth and development, physical education, traffic safety,
7 music, and visual art. The health curriculum shall include the
8 characteristics of communicable diseases including acquired
9 immune deficiency syndrome. At least one foreign language
10 shall be taught in grades one through six in school districts.

11 The state board as part of accreditation standards shall adopt
12 curriculum definitions for implementing the elementary program.

13 Sec. 2. FOREIGN LANGUAGE FOR ELEMENTARY STUDENTS — SCHOOL
14 DISTRICT PLAN. The board of directors of each school district
15 shall develop and implement a plan to teach at least one
16 foreign language in grades one through six by the school year
17 beginning July 1, 2015.

18 Sec. 3. STATE MANDATE FUNDING SPECIFIED. In accordance
19 with section 25B.2, subsection 3, the state cost of requiring
20 compliance with any state mandate included in this Act shall
21 be paid by a school district from state school foundation aid
22 received by the school district under section 257.16. This
23 specification of the payment of the state cost shall be deemed
24 to meet all of the state funding-related requirements of
25 section 25B.2, subsection 3, and no additional state funding
26 shall be necessary for the full implementation of this Act
27 by and enforcement of this Act against all affected school
28 districts.

29 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE. The following provision or
30 provisions of this Act take effect July 1, 2015:

31 1. The section of this Act amending section 256.11,
32 subsection 3.

33 EXPLANATION

34 This bill requires school districts to develop and implement
35 a plan to teach at least one foreign language in grades one

1 through six by the school year beginning July 1, 2015. The
2 provision that amends the educational standards to require
3 school districts to teach at least one foreign language in
4 grades one through six takes effect July 1, 2015.

5 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code
6 section 25B.3. The bill requires that the state cost of
7 any state mandate included in the bill be paid by a school
8 district from state school foundation aid received by the
9 school district under Code section 257.16. The specification
10 is deemed to constitute state compliance with any state mandate
11 funding-related requirements of Code section 25B.2. The
12 inclusion of this specification is intended to reinstate the
13 requirement of political subdivisions to comply with any state
14 mandates included in the bill.